GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5564
ANSWERED ON:16.05.2007
WORKS OF KOTTAPPURAM-KOLLAM WATERWAY
Manoj Dr. K.S.

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the works on the Kottappuram-Kollam portion of Inland Waterway-III (IW-III) have been completed;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the IW-III has utilized the first year allocation of funds from the Twelfth Finance Commission;

(d) if so, the amount utilized till dated, year-wise; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU)

(a) & (b): Out of the total length of 205 km of the National Waterway No.3 navigational channel with 2 meter depth has been provided between Kochi and Thakazhi jetty (84 km) and also in most parts of the Kochi-Kottapuram stretch (25 km) as well as Udyogmandal canal (23km) and Champakara Canal (14 km). One Cutter Suction Dredger and one survey launch has also been deployed on the waterway. Annual maintenance works are carried out regularly by IWAI on the waterway. Round the clock navigational aids are also provided between Kochi and Alapuzha. Terminals have been constructed at Kottappuram, Alluva, Kayarnkulam, Vaikom, Thanneermukham, Trikkunappuzha and Maradu. A project to provide terminal at Kollam has also been sanctioned. At Allapuzha, the terminal will be constructed after handing over of land by the State Government.

However, due to various problems such as non-availability of suitable sites for disposal of dredged material, presence of fishing nets in the waterway, court cases in respect of land acquisition and contractual litigations etc., the capital dredging work could not be completed in the entire stretch. In some portions of Kochi-Kottappuram sector (5 km) and many places between Thakazhi jetty and Kollam (25 km), capital dredging has not been done on account of the reasons stated above.

(c) to (e): No, Sir. The Twelfth Finance Commission has not provided funds for National Waterway No. 3 in Kerala. However, the 12th Finance Commission has awarded special fund of Rs. 500 crore to the State of Kerala as under:-

	Rs. in crore
(i) For inland waterways and canals	225.00
(ii) Coastal Zone Management	175.00
(iii) Improvement of quality school	100.00
Total:	Rs.500.00